



*Maritime OPINTEL Report*

**(U) WORLDWIDE: Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS)  
Report**

***17 October – 14 November 2012***

15 November 2012

*Maritime Crime/Piracy*

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**1. (U) Scope Note**

(U) The Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) message provides information on threats to, and criminal action against, merchant vessels worldwide in the last 30 days. This report is produced primarily to inform merchant mariners and naval forces.

**2. (U) Summary**

(U) INDONESIA: Tugboat towing a barge boarded on 6 November approximately 58 nm south of Pulau Airabu, Anambas Islands.

**3. (U) Counter-Piracy and Maritime Crime Announcements and Advisories**

A. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Government of Japan convoy schedule for November 2012. Merchant vessels that wish to apply for JMSDF escort operation should visit [http://www.mlit.go.jp/en/maritime/maritime\\_fr2\\_000000.html](http://www.mlit.go.jp/en/maritime/maritime_fr2_000000.html) and follow the application procedure. For further information, please contact directly the Anti-Piracy Contact and Coordination Office, Maritime Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MILT), Japan: Tel: +81-3-5253-8932 Fax: +81-3-5253-1643 Email: [INFO-PIRACY@mlit.go.jp](mailto:INFO-PIRACY@mlit.go.jp) (MSCHOA).

B. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Korean Navy convoy schedule for November 2012. All merchant vessels wishing to join the convoy group must submit their application forms directly to the ROK naval warship carrying out the mission. The ROK MTG can be reached directly at (INMARSAT: 870-773-110-299), (Email: [rokcheonghae@gmail.com](mailto:rokcheonghae@gmail.com)) (MSCHOA).

C. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Chinese Navy convoy schedule for November 2012. For further information, please e-mail [cnmrcc@msa.gov.cn](mailto:cnmrcc@msa.gov.cn), [cnmrcc@mot.gov.cn](mailto:cnmrcc@mot.gov.cn), or call Tel: 86-10-652-92221 Fax: 86-10-652-92245 (MSCHOA).

D. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Indian Navy convoy escort schedule for November 2012. To register, email [antipiracyescort@dgshipping.com](mailto:antipiracyescort@dgshipping.com) or [dgcommcentre@satyammal.net](mailto:dgcommcentre@satyammal.net), or visit [www.dgshipping.com](http://www.dgshipping.com). Telephone numbers for contact are: 91-22-22614646 or fax at 91-22-22613636 (MSCHOA).

#### 4. (U) Details: Monthly Incidents by Region

(U) This section lists reports of active violence against shipping, credible threats to shipping, or the potential for a situation to develop into a direct threat to shipping over the last 30 days. Designation of a high-threat area is based on an assessment of all source information relating to the existence of, or potential for, piracy and other crime, terrorism, civil unrest, or low-intensity conflict. Every effort is made to ensure that incidents are not double-counted. In the event double-counting is detected, or an incident is later learned to be different than initially reported, an explanation of the cancellation of the inaccurate report will be made in at least one message prior to dropping the erroneous report.

A. (U) **NORTH AMERICA**: No current incidents to report.

B. (U) **CENTRAL AMERICA–CARIBBEAN**: No current incidents to report.

C. (U) **SOUTH AMERICA**: No current incidents to report.

D. (U) **ATLANTIC OCEAN AREA**: No current incidents to report.

D. (U) **NORTHERN EUROPE–BALTIC**: No current incidents to report.

E. (U) **MEDITERRANEAN–BLACK SEA**: No current incidents to report.

G. (U) **WEST AFRICA**:

(U) NIGERIA: Barge carrier experienced attempted boarding on 24 October at 03:54 N – 005:27 E, approximately 55nm SW of Brass. Seven pirates in a speedboat attempted to board the vessel while underway. The vessel made evasive manoeuvres, increased speed and avoided the boarding. (IMB)

H. (U) **RED SEA**: No current incidents to report.

I. (U) **INDIAN OCEAN–EAST AFRICA**:

1. (U) INDIAN OCEAN: HNMLS Rotterdam fired upon on 24 October off of Somali coast. While conducting routine surveillance off the Somali coast, HNLMS Rotterdam the flagship for the NATO 'OCEAN SHIELD' counter piracy mission, came under fire from suspected pirates. Boarding team from the Rotterdam was making an approach on a suspect dhow near the coast

when they came under fire from ashore and from the dhow itself. (IMB, MSCHOA)

2. (U) INDIAN OCEAN: Fishing vessel hijacked on 19 October approximately 250 nm north-east off the coast of Somalia. On Saturday, 20 October 2012, the EU Naval Force (EU NAVFOR) German frigate FGS SACHSEN located a dhow after receiving a distress signal. Saved 20 Iranian sailors, detained seven suspected pirates, and several assault rifles AK47, as well as a Rocket Propelled Grenade Launcher (RPG) were confiscated. (EU)

3. (U) INDIAN OCEAN: Fishing vessel hijacked on 19 October near 08:52 N – 050:28 E, approximately 60 nm northeast of Eyl, Somalia. (NSC)

J. (U) **PERSIAN GULF**: No current incidents to report.

K. (U) **SOUTHEAST ASIA**:

1. (U) INDONESIA: Tugboat towing a barge boarded on 6 November near 01:44 N – 106:11 E, approximately 58 nm south of Pulau Airabu, Anambas Islands. Ten robbers armed with long knives boarded the tugboat while enroute from Port Klang to Kuching. One of the crew members was assaulted during the boarding. The robbers stole crew personal belongings, cash and vessel documents and certificates before escaping. The incident was reported to the owners and the Master made a police report upon arrival at Kuching, Malaysia on 8 November.

2. (U) INDONESIA: Container ship boarded on 03 November at 06:00 S - 106:54 E, at the Jakarta Anchorage. Four robbers in a small boat approached the stern of an anchored container ship. One robber boarded the ship using a hook attached with rope while the other three robbers remained in their boat. Deck watchmen spotted the robber and raised the alarm. Seeing crew alertness the robber escaped empty handed. (IMB)

3. (U) INDONESIA: Bulk carrier boarded on 02 November at 01:41 S - 116:38 E, at the Adang Bay Anchorage. Robbers boarded an anchored bulk carrier unnoticed and stole ship's stores from the forward store and escaped unnoticed. The theft was noticed during the handing over watch and reported to authorities. (IMB)

4. (U) INDONESIA: Bulk carrier boarded on 27 October at 03:41 S – 114:27 E, at the Taboneo Anchorage, Banjarmasin. Three robbers boarded an anchored bulk carrier in ballast awaiting cargo operations. Duty crew on rounds noticed a robber on the forecastle deck and he informed the D/O who raised the alarm. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew alertness, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped with ship stores in two waiting boats. (IMO, IMB)

5. (U) INDONESIA: Bulk carrier boarded on 27 October at 03:53 N – 098:46 E, at the Belawan Outer Anchorage. About 3-4 robbers boarded an anchored bulk carrier. They took hostage the duty A/B and stole his personal belongings. The A/B managed to escape and raised the alarm. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped. Crew mustered and made a search of the ship and found that nothing else was stolen from the ship. (IMO, IMB)

6. (U) INDONESIA: Container ship boarded on 27 October at 03:56 N – 098:47 E, Belawan Anchorage. Three robbers armed with long knives boarded an anchored container ship

via the anchor chain. They took hostage the duty crew and tied him up on the forecastle deck. Another duty crew reported the incident to the D/O on the bridge that raised the alarm and contacted the port authorities. Three rocket flares were fired at the forecastle resulting in the robbers escaping in their fishing boat. Upon investigation it was found that the robbers managed to steal the hostage crews personal effects. (IMO, IMB)

7. (U) INDONESIA: Container ship attempted boarding on 21 October at 03:47 N – 098:42 E, at the Belawan International Container Terminal. Two robbers armed with long knives in a small boat approached a berthed container ship. Alert duty crew noticed one robber attempting to board the ship using a rope. The crew shouted at the robber who aborted the boarding and escaped. (IMO, IMB)

8. (U) INDONESIA: Container ship boarded on 20 October at 03:55 N – 098:46 E, at the Belawan Anchorage. Robbers boarded an anchored container ship unnoticed, they stole ship stores and escaped. (IMO, IMB)

9. (U) MALAYSIA: Tanker hijacked 19 October near 05:16 N – 115:14 E, at the Labuan Anchorage. Bunker tanker was hijacked by 10 pirates. Pirates released the vessel on 24 October after stealing her cargo, 610 metric tons of fuel, and robbing the crew and vessel of anything having value, from cash to personal belongings and damaging navigation and communication equipment. Crew was generally unharmed except for a few minor injuries. (www.seafarertimes.com, www.shipandbunker.com)

10. (U) INDONESIA: Tanker boarded on 19 October near 01:06 N – 103:28 E, at the Karimun STS Anchorage. Three to five robbers boarded the tanker during ship- to- ship transfer operations. They entered into the engine room and stole ship's stores and engine spares. (IMO, IMB)

11. (U) MALAYSIA: Tug boarded on 18 October near 04:13 N – 108:15 E, off Tanjung Datu. Robbers boarded a tug towing a barge, stole crew cash and escaped. (IMO, IMB)

12. (U) INDONESIA: Tug boarded on 18 October at 01:18 N – 104:48 E, off Pulau Bintan. Six pirates in a speed boat boarded a tug towing a barge. They took hostage all the crew, tied them up, and stole crew cash and personal effects before escaping. Master was slightly injured during the incident. (IMO, IMB)

13. (U) INDONESIA: Salvage vessel boarded on 17 October at 00:59 N – 105:10 E, approximately 19.4 nm east of Pulau Mapur. Ten robbers armed with guns and knives boarded a salvage vessel towing a barge from Singapore to Balikpapan, Indonesia. The robbers stole ship properties, crew cash and property, and escaped. All the crew safe and the vessel continued her passage towards Balikpapan. (IMB)

L. (U) **NORTH ASIA:** No current incidents to report.

M. (U) **PACIFIC-ANTARCTIC OCEAN:** No current incidents to report.

N. (U) **ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC NON-STATE ACTIVIST GROUPS:** No current incidents to report.

## 5. (U) Appendix A: Further Contact Information and Resources

(U) This appendix provides contact information for the author of the WTS as well as other entities that can be contacted with maritime crime reports. It also lists other resources where the WTS is posted and where piracy and maritime crime incident information can be found.

### (U) Contact

(U) Originator of this WTS report requests consumer feedback. Originator will incorporate all anti-shipping events and violence against the maritime industry into this weekly message where appropriate. To aid in our reporting, please add the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) to your normal corporate and organizational reporting requirements. The 24-hour watch can be reached at +1 (301) 669-4053.

### (U) Other Resources

(U) This Worldwide Threat to Shipping Report is posted at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency's Maritime Safety site: <http://www.nga.mil/portal/site/maritime>. The International Maritime Bureau (IMB) also publishes a live piracy report based on reporting from the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, listing all piracy and armed robbery incidents in the last ten days: <http://www.icc-ccs.org/>. The PAWW and WTS Reports are posted weekly on the ONI Intel Portal: [http://www.oni.navy.mil/Intelligence\\_Community/piracy.htm](http://www.oni.navy.mil/Intelligence_Community/piracy.htm)

## 6. (U) Appendix B: Terminology and References

(U) This appendix is provided to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference in reporting and also identifies those references that were used to gather the information contained in this report. ONI welcomes comment and suggestions for addition or amendment.

### (U) Terminology

(U) In order to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference, the following have been adopted to describe the range of criminal anti-shipping activity and impediments to safe navigation in our worldwide reporting and analysis. Please note that these terms relate to observable activity and are independent of target vessel status and exclude actions by governmental powers in lawful pursuit of their authorities:

- (U) **Attempted Boarding** – Close approach or hull-to-hull contact with report that boarding paraphernalia were employed or visible in the approaching boat.
- (U) **Blocking** – Hampering safe navigation, docking, or undocking of a vessel as a means of protest.

- (U) **Boarding** – Unauthorized boarding of a vessel by persons not part of its complement without successfully taking control of the vessel.
- (U) **Firing Upon** – Weapons discharged at or toward a vessel.
- (U) **Hijacking** – Unauthorized seizure and retention of a vessel by persons not part of its complement.
- (U) **Kidnapping** – Unauthorized forcible removal of persons belonging to the vessel from it.
- (U) **Robbery** – Theft from a vessel or from persons aboard the vessel.
- (U) **Suspicious Approach** – All other unexplained close proximity of an unknown vessel.

### (U) **Sourcing**

(U) ONI derives information in this report from direct reporting and analysis of reports from the following agencies and commercial sources.

- Agence France Presse (AFP)
- Associated Press (AP)
- BBC News (BBC)
- Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO), Denmark (BIMCO)
- EU Naval Forces (EU)
- Fairplay (FP), London
- International Maritime Bureau (IMB), London and Kuala Lumpur
- International Maritime Organization (IMO), London
- Informa Group (INFO), formerly LLP, Llp Limited, London
- Latitude38.com (LAT), website
- Lloyd's List (LL), daily, London
- Local media (LM)
- Maritime Administration (MARAD), US
- Maritime Security Council (MSC), US
- Maritime Security Centre – Horn of Africa (MSCHOA), Northwood
- MaRisk by Risk Intelligence (Risk Intelligence/MaRisk)
- Noonsite.com (Noonsite), website
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization Shipping Center (NSC), Brussels
- National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), Navigation Safety System
- Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) (analysis and comment)
- Operator (owner or operator of affected vessel)
- Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC), US
- United States Coast Guard (USCG)
- Royal Australian Navy (RAN)
- Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, Information Sharing Center (ReCAAP ISC)
- Reuters

- Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN)
- Seafarers' Assistance Program (SAP), Kenya
- Tradewinds (TW)
- United Kingdom Maritime Trade Organization (UKMTO)
- United Press International (UPI)
- U.S. Maritime Liaison Office (MARLO) Bahrain
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)
- U.S. Department of State (DOS)
- U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)

(U) **ICOD:** 14 November 2012